

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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Contact: Jeff Lungren/Terry Shawn 202-225-2492

Chabot Subcommittee to Hold 2 Voting Rights Act Legislation Hearings Thursday

What: Two legislative hearings on H.R. 9, The Voting Rights Act

Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006 (VRARA)

Who: Subcommittee on the Constitution – Rep. Steve Chabot (R-Ohio),

Chairman

When: 9:00 AM, Thursday, May 4, 2006 (First Hearing)

2:00 PM, Thursday, May 4, 2006 (Second Hearing)

Where: 2141 Rayburn Building

Based upon the ten oversight hearings conducted by the Constitution Subcommittee since last fall, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Sensenbrenner introduced bipartisan legislation, H.R. 9, that would extend expiring provisions of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) for 25 more years.

THIS HEARING WILL EXPLORE...

- The impact that H.R. 9 will have on continuing the progress that minority voters have made in the electoral process in the last 40 years and on protecting racial and language minority voters over the next 25 years.
- The need for H.R. 9 to update certain provisions of the VRA, including restoring Section 5 to its original meaning, to ensure that the temporary provisions remain effective in remedying the history of racial discrimination.

WITNESSES for 9:00 Hearing: Mr. Roger Clegg, Vice President, Center for Equal Opportunity; Mr. Gerry Hebert, former DOJ Voting Section Chief; and Mr. Debo Adegbile, Assistant Director for Litigation, Legal Defense Fund.

WITNESSES for 2:00 Hearing: Ms. Rena Comisac, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice; Hon. Chris Norby, Orange County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors; Ms. Karen Narasaki, President and Executive Director, Asian American Justice Center; and Dr. James Thomas Tucker, Voting Rights Specialist, NALEO.